

In the Claims:

1-118. Canceled.

119. (Currently amended) An isolated nucleic acid encoding a polypeptide having at least 80% ~~nucleic acid~~ sequence identity to:

- (a) ~~a nucleic acid sequence encoding the~~ amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 371 ~~shown in Figure 266 (SEQ ID NO: 371);~~
- (b) ~~a nucleic acid sequence encoding the~~ amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 371 ~~shown in Figure 266 (SEQ ID NO: 371),~~ lacking its associated signal peptide;
- (c) ~~a nucleic acid sequence encoding the extracellular domain of the polypeptide shown in Figure 266 (SEQ ID NO: 371);~~
- (d) ~~a nucleic acid sequence encoding the extracellular domain of the polypeptide shown in Figure 266 (SEQ ID NO: 371),~~ lacking its associated signal peptide;
- (e) ~~the nucleic acid sequence shown in Figure 265 (SEQ ID NO: 370);~~
- (f)(c) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 370 shown in Figure 265 (SEQ ID NO: 370); or
- (g)(d) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 203091;

wherein said encoded polypeptide induces chondrocyte redifferentiation.

120. (Currently amended) An isolated nucleic acid of Claim 119 encoding a polypeptide having at least 85% ~~nucleic acid~~ sequence identity to:

- (a) ~~a nucleic acid sequence encoding the~~ amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 371 ~~shown in Figure 266 (SEQ ID NO: 371);~~
- (b) ~~a nucleic acid sequence encoding the~~ amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 371 ~~shown in Figure 266 (SEQ ID NO: 371),~~ lacking its associated signal peptide;
- (c) ~~a nucleic acid sequence encoding the extracellular domain of the polypeptide shown in Figure 266 (SEQ ID NO: 371);~~
- (d) ~~a nucleic acid sequence encoding the extracellular domain of the polypeptide shown in Figure 266 (SEQ ID NO: 371),~~ lacking its associated signal peptide;

- (e) ~~the nucleic acid sequence shown in Figure 265 (SEQ ID NO: 370);~~
(f)(c) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 370 shown in Figure 265 (SEQ ID NO: 370); or
(g)(d) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 203091;
wherein said encoded polypeptide induces chondrocyte redifferentiation.

121. (Currently amended) An isolated nucleic acid of Claim 119 encoding a polypeptide having at least 90% ~~nucleic acid~~ sequence identity to:

- (a) ~~a nucleic acid sequence encoding the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 371 shown in Figure 266 (SEQ ID NO: 371);~~
(b) ~~a nucleic acid sequence encoding the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 371 shown in Figure 266 (SEQ ID NO: 371), lacking its associated signal peptide;~~
(e) ~~a nucleic acid sequence encoding the extracellular domain of the polypeptide shown in Figure 266 (SEQ ID NO: 371);~~
(d) ~~a nucleic acid sequence encoding the extracellular domain of the polypeptide shown in Figure 266 (SEQ ID NO: 371), lacking its associated signal peptide;~~
(e) ~~the nucleic acid sequence shown in Figure 265 (SEQ ID NO: 370);~~
(f)(c) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 370 shown in Figure 265 (SEQ ID NO: 370); or
(g)(d) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 203091;
wherein said encoded polypeptide induces chondrocyte redifferentiation.

122. (Currently amended) An isolated nucleic acid of Claim 119 encoding a polypeptide having at least 95% ~~nucleic acid~~ sequence identity to:

- (a) ~~a nucleic acid sequence encoding the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 371 shown in Figure 266 (SEQ ID NO: 371);~~
(b) ~~a nucleic acid sequence encoding the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 371 shown in Figure 266 (SEQ ID NO: 371), lacking its associated signal peptide;~~

- ~~(e) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the extracellular domain of the polypeptide shown in Figure 266 (SEQ ID NO: 371);~~
 - ~~(d) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the extracellular domain of the polypeptide shown in Figure 266 (SEQ ID NO: 371), lacking its associated signal peptide;~~
 - ~~(e) the nucleic acid sequence shown in Figure 265 (SEQ ID NO: 370);~~
 - ~~(f)(c) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 370 shown in Figure 265 (SEQ ID NO: 370); or~~
 - ~~(g)(d) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 203091;~~
- wherein said encoded polypeptide induces chondrocyte redifferentiation.

123. (Currently amended) An isolated nucleic acid of Claim 119 encoding a polypeptide having at least 99% ~~nucleic acid~~ sequence identity to:

- ~~(a) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 371 shown in Figure 266 (SEQ ID NO: 371);~~
 - ~~(b) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 371 shown in Figure 266 (SEQ ID NO: 371), lacking its associated signal peptide;~~
 - ~~(e) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the extracellular domain of the polypeptide shown in Figure 266 (SEQ ID NO: 371);~~
 - ~~(d) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the extracellular domain of the polypeptide shown in Figure 266 (SEQ ID NO: 371), lacking its associated signal peptide;~~
 - ~~(e) the nucleic acid sequence shown in Figure 265 (SEQ ID NO: 370);~~
 - ~~(f)(c) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 370 shown in Figure 265 (SEQ ID NO: 370); or~~
 - ~~(g)(d) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 203091;~~
- wherein said encoded polypeptide induces chondrocyte redifferentiation.

124. (Currently amended) An isolated nucleic acid comprising:

- (a) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 371 ~~shown in Figure 266~~ (SEQ ID NO: 371);
- (b) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 371 ~~shown in Figure 266~~ (SEQ ID NO: 371), lacking its associated signal peptide;
- ~~(e) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the extracellular domain of the polypeptide shown in Figure 266 (SEQ ID NO: 371);~~
- ~~(d) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the extracellular domain of the polypeptide shown in Figure 266 (SEQ ID NO: 371), lacking its associated signal peptide;~~
- ~~(e)(c)~~ the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 370 ~~shown in Figure 265~~ (SEQ ID NO: 370);
- ~~(f)(d)~~ the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 370 ~~shown in Figure 265~~ (SEQ ID NO: 370); or
- ~~(g)(e)~~ the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 203091.

125. (Currently amended) The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 124 comprising a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 371 ~~shown in Figure 266~~ (SEQ ID NO: 371).

126. (Currently amended) The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 124 comprising a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 371 ~~shown in Figure 266~~ (SEQ ID NO: 371), lacking its associated signal peptide.

127-128. Canceled.

129. (Currently amended) The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 124 comprising the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 370 ~~shown in Figure 265~~ (SEQ ID NO: 370).

130. (Currently amended) The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 124 comprising the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 370 ~~shown in Figure 265~~ (SEQ ID NO: 370).

131. (Previously presented) The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 124 comprising the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 203091.
- 132-134. (Canceled)
135. (Currently amended) A vector comprising the nucleic acid of Claim 119 or 139.
136. (Previously presented) The vector of Claim 135, wherein said nucleic acid is operably linked to control sequences recognized by a host cell transformed with the vector.
137. (Previously presented) A host cell comprising the vector of Claim 135.
138. (Previously presented) The host cell of Claim 137, wherein said cell is a CHO cell, an *E. coli* or a yeast cell.
139. (New) An isolated nucleic acid encoding a polypeptide having at least 80% sequence identity to:
- (a) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 371;
 - (b) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 371, lacking its associated signal peptide;
 - (c) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 370; or
 - (d) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 203091;
- wherein said encoded polypeptide stimulates endothelial cell proliferation.
140. (New) An isolated nucleic acid encoding a polypeptide according to Claim 139 having at least 85% sequence identity to:
- (a) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 371;

- (b) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 371, lacking its associated signal peptide;
 - (c) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 370; or
 - (d) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 203091;
- wherein said encoded polypeptide stimulates endothelial cell proliferation.

141. (New) An isolated nucleic acid encoding a polypeptide according to Claim 139 having at least 90% sequence identity to:

- (a) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 371;
 - (b) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 371, lacking its associated signal peptide;
 - (c) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 370; or
 - (d) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 203091;
- wherein said encoded polypeptide stimulates endothelial cell proliferation.

142. (New) An isolated nucleic acid encoding a polypeptide according to Claim 139 having at least 95% sequence identity to:

- (a) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 371;
 - (b) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 371, lacking its associated signal peptide;
 - (c) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 370; or
 - (d) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 203091;
- wherein said encoded polypeptide stimulates endothelial cell proliferation.

143. (New) An isolated nucleic acid encoding a polypeptide according to Claim 139 having at least 99% sequence identity to:
- (a) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 371;
 - (b) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 371, lacking its associated signal peptide;
 - (c) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 370; or
 - (d) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 203091;
- wherein said encoded polypeptide stimulates endothelial cell proliferation.